

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION****In the Specification:**

Please amend Paragraph 0028 (Pages 8–9, as-filed) as follows:

In FIG. 2 a security element 1 is applied directly onto the surface of a substrate 4. This can be effected, for example, via adhesive layers not depicted in the FIG. 2, or via binding agents, which are contained in the layers forming the markings. The markings 2, 3 here constitute two areas located side by side and adjoining each other. The substrate 4 can consist of e.g. paper, cardboard, plastic or metal and constitutes, for example, a disposable container on which the security element 1 forms a deposit token to be tested. As an illumination apparatus 5, in particular, focusable light sources are employed, such as spot lamps with reflectors. With this light source the area of the two markings 2, 3 is illuminated and the light reflected by them is led through a circular polarizer 6. As an image recording apparatus for the images of the security element, for example, a camera 7 is used. Simple black-and-white video cameras are inexpensive and available in small overall sizes. For the two image recordings of the security element 1 the same camera 7 is used, but with different circular polarizers 6 for right-handed and left-handed polarization. The two images can be intermediately stored either in the camera 7 or in separate not-shown storage media, and for determining the differential image can be transferred to a system for electronic data processing